



Alaska Community Forestry Program

Demonstration Tree Plantings or Orchard Projects Grant Instructions



Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry
550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1450, Anchorage, AK 99501 / 907-269-8466 /

<http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/index>

Introduction

Forests are vital infrastructure, conveying many benefits to the humans and wildlife that occupy Alaska's communities. Forests clean the air and water, contribute to the livability of our cities, and promote the health of those that live within.

The Alaska Community Forestry Program is offering grants for demonstration projects for tree plantings or orchards to evaluate whether tree species/varieties/cultivars of interest will thrive in Alaska's unique climates.

Thanks to the USDA Forest Service, the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry has grants for up to \$15,000.00 for the demonstration projects. Approximately \$25,000 is available.

The grants are intended to support projects that demonstrate new or innovative ways of growing trees in Alaska. Project applications could include, but are not limited to, new technology, techniques or approaches for street tree plantings, containerized orchards, seedling cultivation, biochar use or other pioneering ideas. Applicants are encouraged to be creative.

Trees must be planted on public lands within a community. For applicants working with schools, consider involving students in the research and design process. Be creative and thoughtful during the planning process. These projects will help us evaluate the success of different demonstration and test projects, share results, and make recommendations.

How can the Grant be used?

The grant can be used for the purchase of: A) trees, saplings, seedlings, or orchard trees; B) items such as mulch, stakes, hoses, gloves, or other planting materials; C) educational materials; D) other material and equipment required for the project; and E) limited shipping costs.

Requirements

- Applicant must be a **government entity or nonprofit** organization with a current IRS 501(C)3 status in good standing.
- Applicants may apply for up to **\$15,000**. Approximately **\$25,000** is available to fund projects.
- A 25% match is required, e.g., a \$1,000 grant requires a \$250 match.
- The match may be cash, volunteer time, or in-kind donations such as trees, shrubs, mulch, water hoses or other materials.
- The match **may not** include federal funds or services provided by federal funds.
- Grant funds **may not** be used to pay wages.

- Trees must be planted on **public land** in one or more communities and have a three-year **maintenance plan**.
- Grant recipients will be required to submit semi-annual progress reports to the Alaska Community Forestry Program.

Grant Selection Criteria

- Does the project demonstrate new or innovative methods for tree plantings or orchard trees of existing Alaska tree species, or new species/varieties/cultivars of interest?
- Does the project address a problem in the preservation, planting, or care of trees growing in Alaska's urban environment?
- Does the proposal show that the project has broad community support?
- Does the proposal describe a well-organized plan and budget that will meet its goals?

Application Process

Complete parts I and II of the application packet. Applications are due no later than **5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020**. Alaska Community Forestry staff and the Alaska Community Forest Council (a citizen council that advises the Division of Forestry) will review proposals and announce the grant awards in **July 2020**. The state and grantee will sign a grant agreement before the project begins. The initial grant period will last up to two years.

Please contact us if you need help with your proposal. We can help you write specifications to ensure that the trees you buy are of high quality, in excellent condition, and appropriate for your site. If you need help from an experienced fruit tree grower in your community, contact your nearest UAF Cooperative Extension Service office, the Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association, a Master Gardener, or a local garden center.

Successful applicants are encouraged to use an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist to inspect trees upon delivery, during installation and after planting. A list of ISA certified Alaska arborists can be found [here](#).

Resources

- Plant high quality trees that are appropriate for the site and meet the [American Standard for Nursery Stock 2014](#)
- Use [Plant a Tree: Alaska's Guide to Tree Selection, Planting, & Care](#) to plan and carry out your project. Request physical copies from the Community Forestry Program
- Division of Forestry [Community Forestry Program](#)
- [Landscape Plants for Alaska](#)
- [UAF Cooperative Extension Service](#)
- Cooperative Extension Service publication: [Growing Tree and Bush Fruits in Alaska](#)
- Alaska [Pioneer Fruit Growers Association](#)
- Guidelines for [tree maintenance in young trees](#)

Email proposal to:
communityforestry@alaska.gov

OR

Mail or deliver proposal to:
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
Community Forestry Program
550 W. Seventh Avenue, Suite 1450
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

For additional information contact:

Josh Hightower
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OR

Jim Renkert
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Mission of the Alaska Community Forestry Program:

Help communities build effective, self-sustaining community forestry programs with strong local support.

Grants funds provided to the State of Alaska Division of Forestry from the USDA Forest Service.

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